

Avila Examiner

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The Right Stuff

by Debby Amos

As the summer approaches and students plan for the upcoming fall semester, something that must be considered is whether or not to apply for a resident assistant position. Each year at this time Avila goes through the process of selecting the resident halls new resident assistants for the following year. Avila is once again in the middle of this process.

"We're looking for the individual who has the ability to leap tall buildings with a single bound and, if they fail the first time, can pick themselves up and try again," said Residential Coordinator-Activities Advisor, Beth Maren. "Actually, what we're looking for is the individual who is able to communicate well and someone who has the ability to get along in the residential environment."

The RA selection process began on Monday, March 30 with an RA informational interest session. Here, perspective applicants were able to ask questions of the current resident assistants. Questions ranged from duty time to how much free time was available to a resident assistant.

"This was a successful meeting because any questions the applicants had about being a resident assistant were answered," said Maren.

During the informational interest session, the applicants were informed of the duties and responsibilities, training, remuneration and the minimum qualifications that an

RA would have to meet.

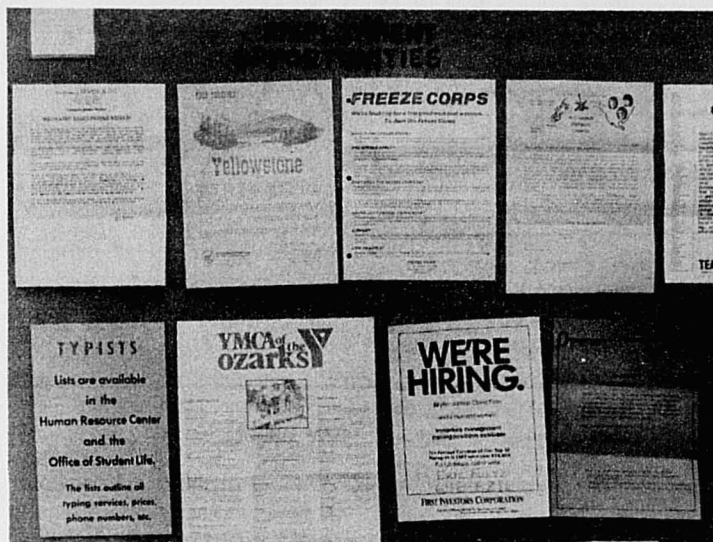
First of all, RA's are required to be on duty on a rotating basis in both residence halls. The RA must make periodic rounds throughout the halls from 7:00-12:00. RA's are also required to program floor projects, attend weekly staff meetings and aid his or her floor members in any way needed.

"One of the major reasons for a resident assistant is to help their floor members with any problem that might occur throughout the school year. If the RA can't assist a floor member, he or she will refer the student to someone who is able to help," said Maren.

Resident assistants, after hired, must return a week before the fall semester begins, for RA training. Everything from handling a roommate conflict to programming to learning first aid is taught during this RA training period. RA's return prior to the beginning of the second semester to again participate in more formal training programs.

"No one is born an RA, it must be taught through both training and experience," said Maren. "Through this process we hope to improve our resident assistant's ability to communicate and handle conflicts."

When applying for a resident assistant position, applicants are informed of the compensation that they will receive during their RA experience: free room and board



as well as a single room and the opportunity to learn basic skills in administration, leadership, programming, and communication.

Other items that must be considered are the qualifications that must be met to be considered as a resident assistant. Academically, the applicant must maintain at least a 2.75 GPA and have completed 24-59 hours as of Fall 1987. Also the

applicant must have prior experience in group living, preferably at Avila.

"On the whole, we're looking for the student who can relate to the college environment as well as the individual student," said Maren.

On Monday, April 20 the final decision will be made. Applicants will be sent a letter regarding the open positions.

Welcome Back, Dr. Kramer!

by Sandra Campbell

After four days in the hospital trying to get rid of a kidney stone, Dr. Larry Kramer, President of Avila College, recently returned to work. "The stone still has not completely passed, but I feel great," said Dr. Kramer, who says he took advan-

tage of the time he had in the hospital to read and work. The Avila Examiner staff joins the rest of the Avila family in welcoming Dr. Kramer back and wishing him continued good health.

find watching out for my floor members safety and well being, as well as meeting new people, just as fulfilling.

It still seems strange sometimes when I stop to think that I'm actually an RA. It's scary to think of all the unfair abuse I've bestowed upon numerous RA's since I've been here at Avila College. To me, RA's were always do-gooders who complained about the music being too loud or students throwing food in the cafeteria. I thought RA's were generally here to harass us and remind us that we weren't completely as free and independent as we all thought. RA's represented the one thing we thought we were getting away from; authority (our parents).

Now that I've been an RA for the

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Curtailling College Costs

by Mike Carney, Director of the Carney Aptitude Measurement Service, Tulsa, OK

As the first of the baby boomers approach packing their baby boom off to college, a frequent topic in headlines and conversations is the relentlessly rising costs of a college education. College costs are off on an inflationary spiral all their own, casting any hope of working your way through school at minimum wage jobs into the realm of other lost innocence of the sixties.

Some attempts at dealing with projected costs are downright surrealistic, such as the recent proposal by some schools that you pay the child's tuition at today's

Office of Career Development Holds Business Seminars

by Sandra Campbell

In March, it was J and M Industries and J.C. Penney. Last week it was Marion Laboratories and the U.S. Armed Services. And this week it will be Waddell and Reed. What do these businesses have in common with Avila College? They are all interested in people who meet certain qualifications to fill positions in their businesses. And Avila has the people they are looking for among its student body. These and other businesses have been presenting career interest seminars on campus for the past two months, explaining their companies' goals and outlining the how-to's of successful interviewing and resume writing.

According to Linda Peterson, Coordinator of Career Development in the Human Resource Center, these presentations are designed to interest students in possible employment and to encourage them to develop better job seeking techniques.

Future presentations will include Uniforce Temporary Service on April 23rd. They will be speaking about jobs with flexible schedules, to suit student needs. Peterson will also conduct workshops every two weeks on interviewing and resume writing skills. "Individual resume consultation is available for students who are not able to make the workshops," said Peterson. Listings of full and part-time job openings in the greater Kansas City area are also available in the Human Resource Center. Anyone interested in any of these services should contact Linda Peterson at 942-8400, Extension 266.

rates while the child is an infant, counting on the fund to grow as the child does to eventually cover college bills. The main purpose would seem to be to make the vast majority of new parents feel inadequate since anyone with small children who can afford to pay for a current full college tuition now is unlikely to experience difficulty fifteen years from now. If you could do so, why deposit the money with a school when you could just as easily invest it yourself? Also, what if the child doesn't elect to go to college or doesn't wish to be confined to the school in question or its range of majors?

More to the point, those most concerned with college costs today are so because they are up against the issue now, not fifteen years from now. They need help today. What they don't realize is that they need help with a major aspect of the final costs that isn't printed in the school catalog.

A recent study by the Federal Department of Education Center for Statistics followed the college careers of 4000 members of the high school class of 1972 for the twelve years immediately after high school graduation. As reported by the Associated Press last December, the study gives quantitative values to a student's likelihood of completing college in the expected four years.

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First Yearbook Successful

by Ken Dudzik

James Alexander, Editor in Chief of Avila's yearbook, was pleased to announce that the yearbook was a great success. The yearbook, which is presently being printed, will hopefully be distributed by early May.

Alexander, a senior from Newport, Arkansas, seemed very pleased with the outcome of the first yearbook, The Avila Anthem. "The making of the yearbook was very time consuming and a lot of hard work but it was well worth the effort," said Alexander. Alexander's staff of approximately 15 fell somewhat short in the number of people he had hoped to have. "We started out with about 30 people on our staff this year and we lost about half of them mainly because of time consumption."

The idea of having a yearbook originated this past summer when Alexander went to this year's advisor Gary Morgan, and Vice President Tom Lease with the proposition of starting a yearbook program. Lease and Morgan liked the idea with the hope that the book would benefit the students.

The initial yearbook will be somewhat small, containing approximately 105 pages, due to the small staff. But then again it is the quality not the quantity that counts.

Alexander would like to extend an invitation to the student body to get involved and join next years staff. He also praised the efforts of his advisors Gary Morgan and Jan



Day, and said that the yearbook would not have been a success without their hard work.

Editors of this year's yearbook are: Patrick Wood, Candis Donnell, Debby Amos, Lori Peterson, Gina Sola, Debbie Wernsman and Tim Stoehr. To all of the editors, advisors, reporters, and Editor in Chief James Alexander, congratulations for your success on Avila's first yearbook.

Life As An R.A.

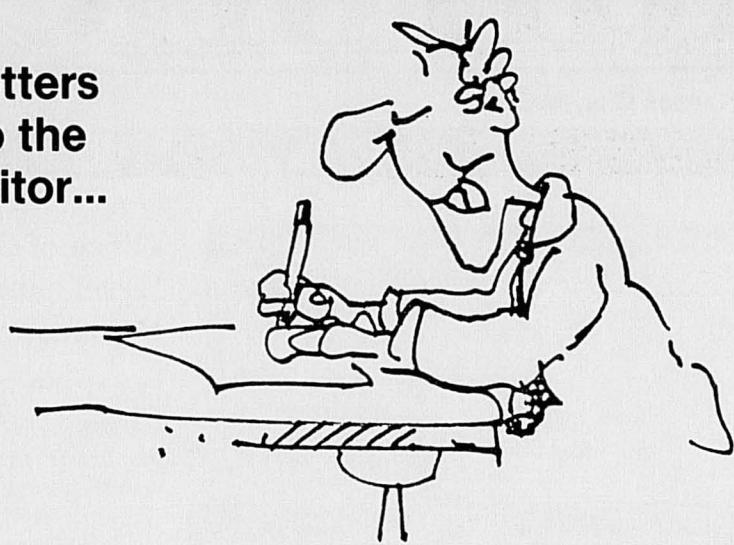
by Debby Amos

If someone would have told me at Christmas time, this past year, that when I returned to Avila for the Spring semester I would become an RA, I would have openly laughed. For you see, for the past two and a half years I've attempted to create and/or discover new ways to side-

step the dorm (Residence Hall) rules, not enforce them. I've taken my friend's clothes from the shower, hidden in closets to frighten people, helped the housekeeper clean the lounge and of course, accidentally closed my door while a member of the opposite sex happened to be in the room. On the same note, I've also been the innocent victim of numerous dorm pranks. Countless number of times I've been forced to make a mad dash back to my room in a shower curtain, only to discover my door locked and my friends with extra film in their cameras. I guess all is fair in love and war.

With the start of the new semester, I found myself in a new room, on a new floor with new responsibilities. Now, instead of side-stepping rules, I must enforce them. I long to pour cold water over the top of a shower or crank my stereo at 3:30 in the morning. However, I

Letters
to the
Editor...



Dear Editor,

As a commuter student, every day I must leave my car in an Avila parking lot. I feel like my car is in jeopardy because of all the glass in the parking lot between O'Reilly and Blasco Halls. It's been there for weeks and I spend my first ten minutes on campus every morning avoiding the glass.

Is it possible for the maintenance crew to get it swept up? If not, will they pay for a new tire for my car? When we drive into Avila parking lots we expect some kind of safety for our cars. Is that too much to ask?

Broken up,
Jeff Barker
Commuter student

Dear Editor,

Without a doubt, college food will never replace a warm home-cooked meal. No one should ever place that type of expectation on a college food service. However, some level of quality should be expected.

Being a resident student, I have no real choice but to eat my meals in the Dining Room. However, it is difficult being excited about lunch when I am served a sandwich that resembles a French Toast/Grilled Cheese. Really, there were eggs on the bread!! The pizza I consumed the other night didn't taste much like anything and looked like a reject from Domino's.

I know SAGA can prepare excellent meals. The Sports Banquet meal was great! I've also lived on campus long enough to know that any meal can be of that quality. What's happened lately to the quality of food in the Dining Room? The salad bar is a rare treat!

Sincerely,
Debby Amos
Junior

To the Editor,

In the February 26, 1987 issue of the Avila Examiner, I was the subject of a feature article. I was also honored by a tribute from the student Campus Ministry representatives in the college chapel, March 19, during the St. Joseph Day Liturgy. Both these events proclaimed my joy at being able to celebrate my sixtieth anniversary as a Sister of St. Joseph of Carondelet.

I want to thank Beth Maren, faculty advisor for the Avila Examiner and composer of the article. I really felt good, Beth, about the article and so did my sisters of the Avila Community. I am sending copies home to De Pere, Wisconsin.

To Sister Pat Gillespie for planning the Liturgy and for arranging the photo presentation "of my past" on the Marian bulletin board, I am grateful.

God Bless you,
Sister Margaret-Reinhart
Artist in residence

To the Editor,

Recently I was reviewing old receipts and noticed a reoccurring pattern. For three years I've been paying various course fees to Avila, not really understanding where the money goes. The rising cost of tuition and the continual decrease in the size of my wallet have prompted me to write this letter.

Could you include in your next issue a story that investigates why course fees are collected and how they are distributed within each department?

Sincerely,
Limited Resources

Student Union
— Board —
Formal Dance
has been changed
April 24 to May 8th

Editorial Notebook

A Search in the Hour of Need

Maybe it's just me, but I sense something strange—something that affects all students and staff at Avila. What is one to do if they are, say, on the lower level of O'Reilly Hall and, well, nature calls? If you are a female, this probably isn't a problem for you. But if you are a male, you would have to go either upstairs and to the other end of the building or through the tunnel and over to Whitfield. Who decided which restrooms would be for men or women? Nobody really knows whose decision this was, but apparently their judgement was wrong concerning O'Reilly Hall. The men's room upstairs used to be a women's room. It is obvious that the W-O

was sliced off the sign on the door and inside there are no...(can I say this?)...urinals. So I suppose that someone else at one time noticed this situation, also. Why can't the placement of facilities be like those of the Goppert/Borserine and Whitfield buildings, with his and hers restrooms side-by-side? The Student Life office has said that many females ask them for directions to the nearest restroom in the Marian Centre. There is one close by, but it is in an out-of-the-way place. Perhaps if you are familiar with Avila, searching for a restroom is not a problem. But what about new students and our many visitors?

It also seems odd that there are

two restrooms for men nearly side-by-side upstairs in O'Reilly, but I am told that one of these is "reserved seating" for the Business Department. The same is true with restrooms in the television studio and the photography lab, which appear to be "co-ed". Now this doesn't bother me, but I can understand that it might bother women, being that some members of the male species have given us all a bad rap as "aimless" barbarians. Maybe we can get a female viewpoint on this in a future issue of the Examiner. But until then, it is time for all Avila males to stand up...(or is that sit down?)...for their rights!

Healthy Lifestyles

by Linda Peterson

Your health depends on many factors. Some of which you can't completely control ... but others you can control.

Those factors that you can't control include heredity, environment, gender, and age. Your heredity or genetic traits may make you more susceptible to certain diseases such as diabetes. In our environment, polluted air and water, excessive noise and overcrowding are health hazards that affect everyone. Gender and age can also contribute to diseases and determine our resis-

tance to illness and injury. Though these risks, associated with heredity, environment, gender and age, can't completely be controlled, they can be minimized. This can occur through changes in lifestyle, diet, exercise, and regular health care.

Our lifestyle is the key to wellness. Those factors of health that are controllable include:

Diet - eating sensible amounts of nutritious foods can improve your health and control your weight.

Exercise - The right kind and amount of exercise promotes healthy

heart, lungs, and muscles. It also helps control and relieve stress.

Rest - Many physicians recommend 7-8 hours of sleep a night for good health.

Stress - Stress can cause physical and emotional problems but it can be managed and its effects controlled.

Bad Habits - Avoiding smoking and drug abuse can help prevent serious illness.

Attitude - An optimistic outlook can be the first step toward lasting wellness.

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Opinions expressed in the Avila Examiner do not necessarily represent the official position of Avila College but rather that of the Editorial Staff of the Examiner.

The Avila Examiner reserves the right to edit and print all materials received for publication.

For more information please contact Beth Maren, Residential Coordinator and Activities Advisor, Marian Centre, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Missouri 64145.

Reflections

Can You See Me Lord?

Can you see me Lord?

Am I down here somewhere? Lost in this sea of emotional darkness, somewhere in this mess is there really me? In among all these distorted images is there really something worthwhile?

Can you see me Lord?

In quiet desperation I am asking you to see through all the images and darkness that are torturing me. I'm asking you if you can look through the dark clouds and see if there's anybody there.

If you can see me Lord, do you care?

Do you care enough to try and find me? You'd have to come to me Lord, down through all this desperate darkness, are you willing? Do you care enough to try?

And Jesus said, Child will you see me?

I've already come to you by way of my cross. I'm willing. I care. I understand. My arms are outstretched, now it's up to you. Will you take my hand or will you be blind?

Child will you see me?

I gave it to him
I let him have it —
Just like he deserved it.
After all, I was right.

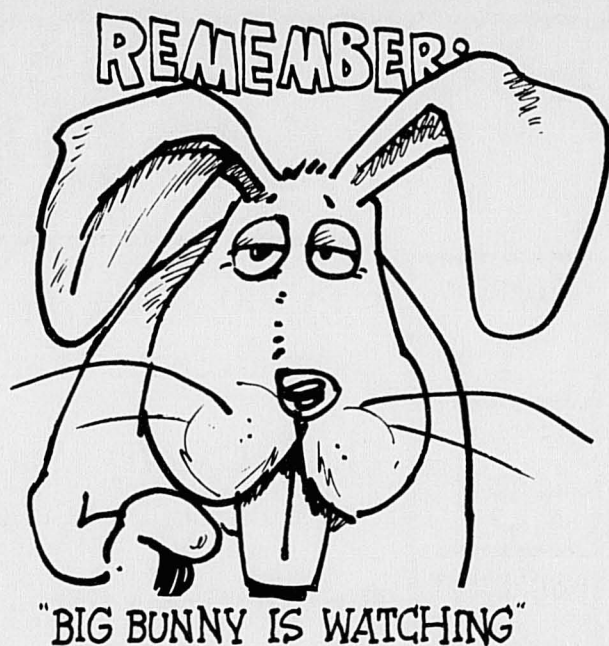
And so I told him what I thought...
I put him in his place.

And inside,
a part of me said,
"Way to go!"
"You showed him!"
"That will teach him a lesson."

But the part of me
that's made in God's image
felt empty

And in this Easter season I remembered what God had done for me through Christ.
And in my heart I bowed, and thanked God, for giving me not what I deserved, but what I needed.

by: David Melton



Treats Cure Sweet Tooth

by Chris Effertz

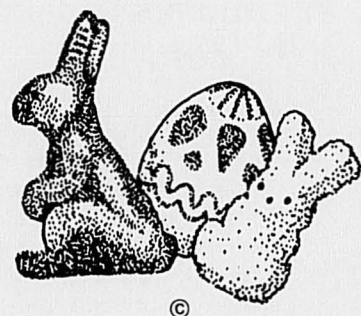
Do you rush around before Easter to find just the right candy? Do you know someone with expensive taste? Do you like Easter shopping to be an adventure? Do you have a fudge fanatic in the family? If you answer yes to any of these questions, read on.

If you're looking for a candy adventure in addition to quality at a reasonable price, try Bitterman and Son Confections at 1625 Oak. Bitterman's is a great place to shop for holidays and special occasions because they not only feature an enormous variety of candy, they sell party and holiday supplies, too. For Easter, they have all types of eggs in different sizes, shapes, and colors. Along with many delicious candies, chocolates, and nuts; Bitterman's imports candy from Scot-

land, Italy, Brazil, and England. So, everyone should experience the Bitterman's candy at least once, and probably will come back for another.

If, on the other hand you're a fudge fanatic, try shopping at Laura Little's Candies at 2100 W. 75th Street in Prairie Village. Laura's offers 16 different kinds of fudge made daily with whipping cream, real butter, and no preservatives. Laura's also sells brittles, toffee, popcorn, and other gift items. So, for a friend with a fudge craving, Laura's is the cure.

So this Easter, instead of filling your basket with the traditional bunnies, jelly beans, and marshmallows, be adventurous. Try a wild assortment from Bitterman's or a creamy fudge from Laura Little's.



R.A., Continued from page 1

past two and a half months, I have a completely different outlook on what it is to be an RA. Strangely enough, RA's are students struggling to complete college and get a degree. If that sounds familiar it's because RA's are simply normal students who have taken on an extra responsibility. Of course, when

News from the World of Ford

Detroit, April 1—Ford Motor Company has announced a "spring break" by offering a \$400 cash allowance under the 1987 Ford College Graduate Purchase Program. Graduating Seniors and advanced degree students can apply the cash allowance towards the purchase or lease of selected vehicles from participating Ford and Lincoln-Mercury dealers.

Additionally, Ford Motor Credit Company will offer special terms and pre-approved credit for qualified individuals.

The program consists of a certificate for a \$400 cash payment, when a purchase or lease of an eligible vehicle is made from Ford Credit for pre-approved credit for qualified buyers. Seniors graduating with at least a bachelor's degree from a four-year college or university and graduate students are eligible. Graduation must occur between October 1, 1986 and September 30, 1987.

"We realize that the purchase of a new vehicle may be difficult at a time when you're beginning your new career," Ford management officials wrote the students. "So Ford Motor Company would like to offer you assistance with Ford's College Graduate Purchase Program."

Letters are being mailed to more than 1.2 million students, while more than 1,300 colleges and universities are receiving information kits on the program. Since only recipients with the purchase allowance and finance plan certificates in their names are eligible, those who were not included in the initial mailing should contact local Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealers or Program Head-

quarters for information on how to qualify.

The eligible vehicles include those normally appealing most to the lifestyles of the new graduates -- 1987 Ford Escort, Tempo, Mustang, Thunderbird and Taurus cars; and Ranger, Aerostar and Bronco II trucks, and 1987 Mercury cars; Tracer, Topaz, Cougar, Sable and Lynx. The credit available ranges from \$7,500 for Tracer to \$14,500 for a Thunderbird or Cougar, and no downpayment is required if the amount financed is within the amount established for the vehicle chosen.

In order to take advantage of Ford's new and unique offer, students must take their certificates to participating Ford dealers, where the \$400 allowance can be used toward the down payment or may be taken as a cash payment direct from Ford. Eligible vehicles can be selected from dealer inventories until August 31, 1987, but production orders must be placed by June 1.

To qualify for the pre-approved credit, eligible participants must have proof of employment beginning within 120 days of purchase at a salary sufficient to cover ordinary living expenses and the vehicle payment. A previous credit record is not required, but graduates with prior credit history must have made payments as agreed.

Students interested in further information can contact their local participating Ford or Lincoln-Mercury dealers or call Program headquarters, toll free at 1-800-321-1536. (In Michigan, call collect 313-540-9890.)

one of us writes someone up, we aren't always considered normal college students or even called that for that matter. I guess what I'm trying to remember is that we also long to go crazy from time to time, just like any other college student. It's just that we don't get the chance that often. To be honest, I wish everyone was able to be an RA for a week or so, because those who attempted this would quickly dis-

cover that an RA doesn't always have a simple, meaningless job.

For now though, I hope by writing this I've shed some new light on what RA's really are. Pure and simply, RA's are here to insure the care and safety of the residents. Besides that, when it gets right down to it someone has to use the single rooms with the showers. Which I might add, are usually safe from undesirable pranks (the showers).

Costs, Continued from page 1

49% of the college graduates did so. The remaining 51% took five years (27%), six years (9%), seven years (5%), or eight-twelve years (10%). Presented another way, the odds are even that a student who ultimately graduates will or will not complete college in four years and one who doesn't will take an average of six years and one semester to do so. For half of those of you who see it through to completion, college is going to require over 50% more time, effort, and money than you expected.

Why? Because you don't know what you're there for. Reasons abound but the most common is not having a clear career goal in mind. Instead of systematically seeking out and using information about themselves and their choices, most students use guesswork, thus becoming participants in one of college's principle indoor sports, changing majors.

Actually these figures are quite optimistic due to the fact that the study was limited to graduates. Dropouts, permanent or temporary, or those who simply had not yet finished at twelve years were excluded from the group. Drop-

outs are consistently reported to account for about 50% of college admissions, hence 49% of the remaining half or about only 1/4 of all college freshmen actually can expect to graduate in four years.

Also it was mentioned but not included as part of the time required that 30% of the graduates took up to three years after high school to enter college. Their time required to complete college did not begin running until that point, even though it still represents a delay in entering their careers.

The figures were presented without comment but they contain within them a hint of the ultimate costs of floundering about in school.

The first cost, of course, is two or so extra years of college expenses beyond that expected. A frequently overlooked surcharge to this is in the constant upward march of those expenses. Still being in college three years past the expected date of graduation means you are paying today's prices for your education instead of the prices of three years ago.

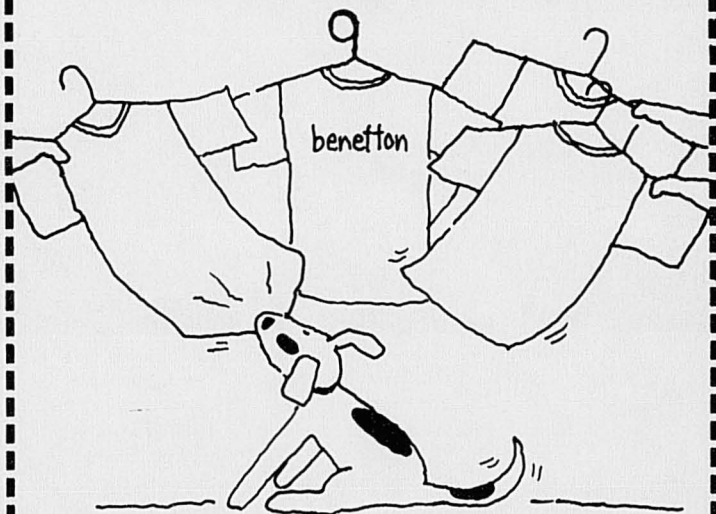
The most obvious cost is the delay of entering your career, a loss of 2-3 years of beginning salary, at first glance a simple case of mis-

fortune that is now at least behind you. Or is it? This loss is never recovered and will be a hidden presence throughout your career in the form of possibly unknown missed or delayed opportunities and promotions. Ultimately it is a shortening, not just a delay, of your career by 2-3 years while at the height of your earning power.

Also while trying out different majors, there is the possibility of never hitting the lucky choice and ending up in a wrong career or getting frustrated to the point of failing to ever be included in the college graduate population at all.

This is not to say you should try to hurry through college. Four years can hardly be called a sprint. The important point is to keep in mind that college is a process, not a goal. Picking a major is one of the most important decisions you will ever make. It should not be done lightly, hoping it will work out or assuming you may change it. It should be based on a thorough knowledge of the field chosen and of yourself, your abilities compared to what is called for in the field. It deserves considerable effort from you, not the usual that-looks-like-fun, I-think-I'd-like-that approach.

**At 10% off,
we're losing our shirts.**



Right now, you can take 10% off when you put on a Benetton T-shirt. But hurry, because with savings like this, they won't last long. So stop by soon, and bring this coupon with you. After all, this is one sale that fits you to a T! Plaza, Oak Park & Bannister Malls, and Ward Parkway Shopping Center. Expires April 30.

benetton

by Debby Amos

**ARMY.
BE ALL YOU CAN BE.**